

OUR MISSION

Together, we create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses.

WISH CATEGORIES

Wishes typically fall into five categories:



I wish to have...

Special gifts (computers, shopping sprees, bedroom makeovers, or a puppy)



I wish to be...

Experience the thrill of being a police officer, firefighter, model, or recording artist



I wish to go...

Travel throughout the United States, the Caribbean and Internationally



I wish to meet...

A favorite celebrity, athlete, musician, or band



I wish to give...

New instruments to my high school marching band, or a prank for my entire school

QUICK FACTS ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH WESTERN NEW YORK:

- We grant **100+ wishes** annually in the greater Buffalo & Rochester regions.
- There are 5 formal wish type categories: **to have, to be, to go, to meet and to give.**
- Make-A-Wish does not receive any federal or state funding. We rely exclusively on donations from individual contributions, special events, corporate donations and sponsorships, foundation grants, workplace giving and planned gifts.
- We have over 300 active volunteers throughout Western New York who help to make wishes come true.

Make-A-Wish® is the largest wish-granting charity in the world, with **60 chapters** throughout the United States and its territories, and **40 international affiliates** on 5 continents. Our National office is located in Phoenix, Arizona.

Since 1992, **Make-A-Wish Western New York** has granted over **3,200** life-changing wishes to children with **critical illnesses** throughout the area.

Children that **qualify** for a wish are between the ages of 2 ½ and 18, and have been diagnosed with a **critical illnesses**. They are **not** necessarily terminal. In fact, many of wish kids overcome their medical conditions and go on to lead **strong, healthy lives**.

A wish is not simply a wish. In the fight against a critical illness, a **wish** serves as a **catalyst** for renewed strength and encouragement for **every child and family** on their journey. In fact, wishes have **proven physical and emotional benefits** that can give children with critical illnesses a **higher chance of survival**. And wishes not only help these children - they also have far-reaching, positive impacts on their **families and communities**.

Every hour of every day, 3 children in the U.S. are diagnosed with a critical illness. Every one of these kids needs a wish to give them strength and help them heal.

Put simply, we believe a single wish transforms lives.



Get in Touch

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